

**From:** David Posey  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/24/02 6:52pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Greetings,

I think the settlement, as currently constructed, is ridiculous. That is, DOJ has apparently caved in to Microsoft, despite having won it's case in court.

Let me get this straight:

- a) The court found that Microsoft has been able to exert monopoly power.
- b) The court found that Microsoft has and continues to abuse that power to the detriment of US citizens (and state citizens, and other countries, of course).

Despite these reasonably clear findings, the settlement does exactly nothing to improve the situation. Either of the following choices seem reasonable to me:

- a) Massive \$ penalties for illegal conduct, stifling competition, price gouging, etc.
- b) Break the company into smaller entities, with \$ penalties explicitly tied to infringement of any of their separation conditions.

I'm extraordinarily disappointed that the DOJ (and the state AGs who joined them) have caved in so completely. This is a complete waste of time and money - if DOJ is incompetent to bring and win these cases, I'd like to see this branch of DOJ disbanded completely. After all, if they can't achieve a reasonable settlement, after spending millions of \$ to WIN the case in court, what use are they???

Regards,  
David Posey  
Software developer since 1980.